

BADGER STATE

SMOKE SIGNALS

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ULS License Manager A New Era in ULS Database Management

New ULS License Manager Features

- Increased Compatibility with most browsers and operating systems
- Improved accessibility for disabled users\
- Streamlined Filing of Wireless License Applications
- Improved Visual Design to improve access to Online Filing Activities
- Ability to Easily Update Licensee Information
- Improved Speed and Performance

In late 2003, the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) will release a major redesign of Online Filing for the Universal Licensing System. A new filing environment, called the ULS License Manager, will put the control of the filing experience into the hands of amateur radio operators and other ULS customers. Hams will discover an easier and more convenient method for making basic database changes (such as address changes and renewals) as well as for requesting vanity callsigns.

License Manager improves dramatically on the current ULS design by relying on current, more robust Internet technology. WTB analyzed the best industry practices to develop the new software, ensuring that it is compatible with most Web browsers and computer operating systems. License Manager streamlines the submission of Amateur applications, provides increased accessibility for the disabled, and employs a new look and feel that makes completing ULS applications simpler and easier.

The new interface has been designed

with the needs of ULS customers in mind: It is based on the feedback we have received from you in focus groups, letters, calls, and e-mails. License Manager is nearing completion. Watch the ULS homepage for a public notice announcing its release later this year.

Your License at a Glance

The License Manager is more than just an online application form; it is your personal homepage within ULS! Simply click the Online Filing button from ULS home on the World Wide Web (<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls>). Then login with your FRN and password for instant access to your new "License at a Glance" page within License Manager.

License at a Glance displays information about your license clearly in the center of the page, including call sign, radio service, licensee name and address, and expiration date. If your license is eligible for renewal, License Manager displays a message notifying you that you are within the renewal period and provides a convenient link to guide you through the renewal

process.

License at A Glance also provides you with processing tools to work on your license. You can update your licensee name and mailing address, renew your license, request a duplicate license, cancel your license, or request a vanity or systematic call sign. There is also a link to view your license applications.

The License Manager Wizard

When you choose a link on your License at a Glance screen to process a change (for example, to your address), you will be led through a new series of simplified application steps, which use an automated "wizard." The wizard will ask you a series of questions, making determinations about the next logical question in the series based on your responses.

As you provide data, the wizard completes the online Form 605 and appropriate

schedules for you seamlessly in the background, validating your information for errors and saving it automatically. When you are near completion of an application, the wizard presents you with a convenient summary page. From here you may return, evaluate, and change any of the information you supplied. Filing with ULS has never been easier!

And the wizard streamlines ULS filing! For example, in the past, to update your licensee information when requesting a license renewal required you to complete two separate applications in ULS, a renewal and an administrative update. ULS License Manager allows you to update your licensee information at anytime, regardless of the type of application. So, you can submit a renewal and a change of address or contact name in one step. It saves you time and energy!

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Check us out on the web at
[Http://www.bsas.org](http://www.bsas.org)



WHAT'S HAPPENING

Swapfests and Other Social Events — Club Meetings Amateur Radio Exam Schedules

Edited by Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage WI 53901 — kenneth.ebnetter@verizon.net

Swapfests And Other Social Events

October 25, 2003, St. Paul, MN. Hamfest Minnesota. <http://www.hamfestmn.org>
Contact: Paul Ramey, WG0G, 2847 County Road G, Glenwood City, WI 54013. Telephone: () 265-7288. e-mail: wg0g@arrl.net.

November 01, 2003, Milwaukee, WI. Milwaukee Repeater Club. <http://www.mrc91.org>
Contact: Bob Albert, AB ("FB, PO Box 2123, Milwaukee, WI 53201-2123. Telephone: (414) 526-7011. e-mail: swapfest@mrc91.org.

November 2, 2003, Fox Cities/Appleton, WI

Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club (W9ZL). New Location. Waverly Beach (inside) at the North tip of Lake Winnebago. Waverly Beach, N8770 Fire Lane 1, Menasha,

WI. For information contact: www.w9zl.org, N9RJZ@tponet.com (John), or (920)729-0797

January 3, 2004, Waukesha, WI
32nd Annual Midwinter Swapfest, sponsored by the West Allis RAC. Waukesha County Expo Center Forum, Waukesha, WI. For information contact: www.warac.org, WARAC Swapfest, PO Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201, or Phil, W9NAW, (414) 425-3649

January 25, 2004, St. Charles, IL. Wheaton Community Radio amateurs. <http://www.wheatonhamfest.org>. **Contact:** Bruce Plantz, K9OZ, 4712 Devon Ave., Lisle, IL 60532. Telephone (530) 968-1844. e-mail: info@wheatonhamfest.org

March 14, 2004, Wisconsin QSO Party. Sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateurs Club. For information contact: WARAC, PO Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201-1072 or www.warac.org

March 21, 2004, Jefferson, WI

Tri-County Amateur Radio Club, Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Activity Center, Hwy 18 West, Jefferson, WI. For information contact: TCARC, 213 Frederick St., Fort Atkinson, WI 53538, www.cmdline.com/tcarc/, jsatt@ticon.net or (920) 563-6381 (evenings), (200 563-9551 (fax)

March 28, 2004, Grays Lake, IL. North Shore Radio Club, NS9RCfest.

May 01, 2004, Cedarburg, WI. 26th Annual Amateur Radio and Computer Swapfest, Ozaukee Radio Club (ORC). Info: www.qsl.net/orc/swap.html.

April 18, 2004. Madison Area Repeater Association Swapfest, Stoughton, WI.

August 14, 2004 Circus City Swapfest, Baraboo, WI.

September 11, 2004. Eau Claire ARC Swapfest, Eau Claire, WI



Appleton
FOX CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: Third Mondays, 7 p.m., Columbus Club, 2531 N. Richmond Street, Appleton, WI
Information: Pat, K9IK, 920.725.1149. PLa-tour428@aol.com Web: <http://www.w9zl.ampr.org/>.

Baraboo
BADGERLAND AMATEUR TELEVISION SOCIETY (BATS) Check BATS Web page: <http://www.shopstop.net/BATS/>

Baraboo
YELLOW THUNDER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: See the YTARC column elsewhere in this issue for meeting times and locations. For further information: <http://www.qsl.net/ytarc>.

Dubuque, IA
GREAT RIVER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: First Monday of each month, 7 p.m. at the Red Cross Center, 2400 Asbury Road. The club serves the tri-state area. On the Web: <http://www.qsl.net/wb0lob/>. Information or questions to: N0hdc@aol.com.

Eau Claire
EAU CLAIRE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: 2nd Tuesday - 7 p.m., Eau Claire Parks & Recreation, 1300 First Ave., Eau Claire, WI 54703. All hams and guests welcome. W9EAU repeater 146.91 MHz, tone 110.9 Hz. Information: Jim Staatz, KG9RA, President, P.O. Box 1867, Eau Claire, WI 54702-1867. Phone (715) 838-9108, Email kg9ra@ecarc.org. Web page: <http://www.ecarc.org>

Fond du Lac
FOND DU LAC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: Second Monday at Moraine Park Technical College, Fond du Lac, WI. Time: 7 p.m. Sunday net: 7:30 p.m. CDT, K9IA repeater, 145.430 - PL 107.2 Information: Jack Heil, KG9IN, 920.922.1413. Email: kg9in@fdlhams.org Web: <http://www.fdlhams.org>.

Fort Atkinson
TRI-COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Thursday monthly except June to August, 7 p.m., at Dwight Foster Public Library in Fort Atkinson. ARES Net each Wednesday evening

Badger State Smoke Signals

Amateur Radio Education and Information

CHAIRMAN/PUBLISHER: Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. Telephone (608) 742-3560. e-mail to: kenneth.ebnetter@verizon.net

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EDITORIAL BOARD: Ken Ebnetter, K9EN; Don Evenson, K9JYX.

Subscription Rate

1 year (6 issues—bi-monthly)\$13.95

A subscription form is in this issue. Special club package reduced rates are available. For information, contact Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

When to Send It

The closing date for each issue is the first of

the month before the issue date. For example, the closing date for the May issue is April 1. The only exception is for participating clubs' minutes. Participating clubs are requested to send their material no later than FIVE DAYS after the club's meeting. For example, if a club meets on the 4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than the 9th of that month. This material is to be sent to the Editor.

Where to Send It

Address changes and corrections, and exchange papers should be sent to Ken Ebnetter. Editorial material, photographs, and feature articles should be sent to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

Web page material should be sent to n9qa@arrl.net (Dave Knaus, N9QA).

Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebnetter.

Club, swapfest, and Test Point information should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Swapfest ADS should be sent to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN no later than eight weeks before the events date.

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to Ken Ebnetter.

Conditions for Reprinting or BBS Posting Material from Badger State Smoke Signals

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Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger State Smoke Signals*, or by any other individual or organization.

(Continued from page 2)
at 8 and club net Monday evenings at 8 on 145.49 repeater. Contact: Glenn Eisenbrandt, WA9VYL, 920.563.6502, or John Satterlee, WA9SAB, 920.563.6381.

Grafton
Ozaukee Radio Club (ORC) Second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Grafton Multipurpose Senior Center, 1665 7th. Ave., Grafton, Wisconsin www.qsl.net/orc/.

Green Bay
GREEN BAY MIKE AND KEY CLUB Meetings: Second Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Media Services area of J. M. Science Building at St. Norbert College in DePere. Information: Kevin at kb9sne@yahoo.com.

Green Lake
GREEN FOX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Greater Green Lake County area. Meetings: Third Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Green Lake Town Hall, intersection of County Highways K and N.

Hudson
St. CROIX VALLEY RADIO AMATEURS Meetings: Third Tuesdays, St. Croix County Emergency Government Center, Carmichael Road, Hudson. Short business meeting at 7:30 p.m. followed by program. Talkin: 145.13 MHz. All are welcome!

Juneau
ROCK RIVER RADIO CLUB Meetings: First Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Dodge County Administration Building, 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, WI. ARES Nets: 146.64 (-600) Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Saturdays, 7277 KHz, 10:30 a.m.

Madison
SPACE PLACE AMATEUR RADIO CENTER No meetings. Located on U.W.-Madison campus. Guest operators are welcome to operate the U.W. Space Place Amateur Radio Station, N9UW. Information: Don Michalski, W9IXG, President, (608) 263-4685. Email: n9uw@sal.wisc.edu.

Madison
BADGER AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY University of Wisconsin - Madison/W9YT Meetings: Third Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in UW Union South. Room number posted on the Today in The Union board. Information: Don Michalski, W9IXG, (608) 263-4685. Email: w9ixg@arrl.org. Web: <http://www.qsl.net/w9yt>.

Madison
Madison DX Club, meetings are on every fourth Tuesday of each month; see <http://madisondxclub> for more details.

Madison
FOUR LAKES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: Third Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Red Cross Building, 4860 Sheboygan Avenue, Room C, downstairs. First building west of Hill Farms State Office Building.

Manitowoc
MANITOWOC COUNTY RADIO AMATEURS (ManCoRad) Second Wednesday of each month. Club board meets at 6:30 p.m., and Regular meeting is at 7:30 p.m., at 1105 Fleetwood Drive, 2nd floor (Old County Shop building on northwest side of city.) Additional infor-

mation: Fred Neuenfeldt, W6BSF, (920) 682-9312. Email: fredw6bsf@lakefield.net.

Marinette WI
Menominee MI
Amateur Radio Club Meetings held second Thursday 7:00PM each month BAMC Tenth Avenue Menominee Michigan in the basement. Guests welcome e-mail secretary kg9ad@arrl.net

Medford
Black River Amateur Radio Association Meetings: Normally the first Thursday of each month. Usual meeting time is 7 PM. Most meetings are held at the Taylor County Courthouse. Directions: Those attending should park in the main courthouse parking lot on the east side of the building, and enter using the main courthouse entrance or the sheriff's dept. entrance. Proceed to the lower level of the courthouse using the stairs or elevator. We meet in the "break room" on the lower level, near the Emergency Government office. Talk-in on the 147.15 repeater (114.8 Hz PL, +600 kHz offset) and 146.52 MHz simplex. Contact: Mike Schoenfuss, N9GHZ, P.O. Box 401, Abbotsford, WI 54405. Phone: (715) 223-3996.

Menomonee Falls
FALLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. Meetings: Last Wednesdays at Bank One building in Germantown. Doors open 7 p.m. Meeting time: 7:30 p.m. Guests are welcome!

Menomonie WI
Saturday coffee at Burger King, 544 Main Street, at 9 a.m. Social hour on 4th Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. at the Depot, 2616 Hills Court, north of Walmart on highway 25 North, in January, March, April, and September through November. Guests welcome!

Milwaukee
GREATER MILWAUKEE DX ASSOCIATION Meetings: Fourth Monday of month, 7:30 p.m. Contact any GMDXA member, or Gary Schwartz, K9GS, (262) 363-4439. Email: garyk9gs@arrl.net.

Milwaukee
MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS CLUB Meetings: Last Thursdays, 7:00 p.m. Redemption Lutheran Church, 4057 North Mayfair Road, Wauwatosa, WI. Mailing address: P.O. Box 070695, Milwaukee, WI 53207. Web: <http://www.qsl.net/mrac> . Email: w9rh@arrl.net.

Monomonie
RED CEDAR REPEATER ASSOCIATION, INC. Saturday coffee at Hardee's in North Monomonie, corner of Highways 12 and 25 at 9 a.m. Social hour on 4th Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at the Peppermill Too, 1414 9th Street in the L-Mart Shopping Center in January, March, April, and September through November. Guests welcome!

Northeast Area
NORTHEAST WISCONSIN DX ASSOCIATION Meetings quarterly: April 28, Marinette; August 25, Fox Valley; November 10, Green Bay. For specific information about meetings, check <http://home.new.rr.com/newdxa/>. Contact us at w9dxa@arrl.net.

Oak Creek
SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: First Wednesdays, Legion Post #434, Shepard Ave., Oak Creek, WI. In March and October the meetings are turned into Auction Nights. Swapfest July 6, 2002. The club WEB site is www.qsl.net/wa9txe

Onalaska
RIVERLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: First Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Onalaska Community Center. More information: <http://www.qsl.net/wr9arc/> . Email: wr9arc@qsl.net.

Oshkosh
RADIO AMATEURS OF WISCONSIN (R.A.W.) Meetings: Third Saturday monthly, locations vary. R.A.W. is a family oriented club. Most of its meetings revolve around family doings and outings. We are always looking for good people to join us. If you are a ham or interested in ham radio, contact Mark Miller, N9WT, (920) 231-1662, or Duane Ritschke, W9UDX, (920) 233-1684.

QCWA Chapter 162
QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION (QCWA) Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162. Meetings: Third Monday in January, March, May, July, September, and November, 7:30 p.m., usually at Meadows Restaurant, Franksville, WI. Social events: Third Sundays in February, April, June, August, and October. Christmas party: Usually second or third Sunday in December.

QCWA Chapter 55
QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION (QCWA) Wisconsin Chapter 55 meets the first Saturday of June and October. For information about Chapter 55, contact Ron Yokes, W9BCK, Secretary, 612 N. Pt Washington Road, Grafton, WI 53024-9703. (262) 375-1774. mailto:rryokes@execpc.com.

Saturday, October 4, 2003, Watertown Moose Club, Watertown, WI.

Racine
LAKESHORE REPEATER ASSOCIATION Meetings: Last Tuesday, January, April, July, October. American Red Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Ave., Racine, WI.

Racine
RACINE MEGACYCLE CLUB Meetings: Second Mondays, 7:30 p.m., American Red Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Ave., Racine, WI.

Rhinelander
NORTHWOODS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: Third Tuesday of Sept., Nov., Dec., Feb., and April for dinner business meetings at Ella's Restaurant, Jct. of Hwy. 51 and 70, north side of Woodruff, WI. Talkin on Sayner or Tomahawk repeaters. The Northwoods ARC News is on the club web site. <http://www.freeyellow.com/members7/nwarc>.

Sheboygan
SHEBOYGAN COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: Second Tuesdays. 7 p.m., Sheboygan County Red Cross/Boy Scout Building, 2032 Erie Avenue.

Shell Lake
NORTHLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: First Tuesday at the Shell Lake United Methodist Church, Reinhart Drive, Shell Lake, WI. Meeting time: 7 p.m. More information: <http://home.centurytel.net/NorthlandARC/>.

Stevens Point
CWRA Ltd./UWSP ARC Meetings second Wednesday. of each month at 7:30 pm. Science Building on the UW-Stevens Point Campus, Room A107, Stevens Point, WI. Email: jglas776@uwsp.edu. Webpage: www.qsl.net/wb9qfw.

Superior
ARROWHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. Meetings: Second Tuesday at WITC Conference Center, 600 N. 21st St., Superior, WI. Time: 7:30 p.m. Board meetings held before regular meetings.

W.A.R. WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF REPEATERS
Quarterly meetings of the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters are held at various locations around the State on the second Saturdays of March, June, September and December. Check the WAR web page for meeting announcements and repeater coordination info. Information: <http://www.wi-repeaters.org>.

Watertown
WATERTOWN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: First Thursdays of month, 7 p.m., Watertown Public Library, 100 South Water Street.

Waupaca
WAUPACA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB CQ First Tue. Social gathering and Dutch treat luncheon, King's Table, King, WI, on Highway QQ, just south of Highways 10 and 54, west side of Waupaca. Gather at 11 to 11:30. Order at noon. Club business transacted. CQ Third Fri. Social gathering and Dutch treat dinner. Semi-formal, OM and XYL, at one of the better supper clubs in the area. Check: Waupaca 147.39 nets at 8 a.m. or 8:50 p.m. for month's meeting location.

Wausau
WISCONSIN VALLEY RADIO ASSOCIATION Meetings: First Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. Location varies. Information: 146.64 (-600). <http://home.dwave.net/~wvra/>.

West Allis
West Allis Radio Amateur Club Second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 80th and Lincoln Ave., West Allis. Meetings in basement. Entrance at rear, off alley. Handicapped accessible. www.warac.org.

West Bend
WASHINGTON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: Second Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Washington County Courthouse. Net: Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., 146.73 (-600).

Wisconsin Rapids
WISCONSIN RAPIDS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: Third Wednesdays, 7 p.m., Room 14 of Wood County Courthouse. Talkin: 146.79 (-600) for entry into the building.

Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Dean R. Herriges, KB9ROB, Secretary
W370 S9590 Highway 67 • Eagle, WI 53119

WISCONSIN NETS

Net	WNA	Freq.	UTC	CDT	Manager
BWN	YES	3985	1100	0600	W9RCW
BEN	YES	3985	1700	1200	KE9VU
WSBN	YES	3985	2230	1730	N9ZET
WNN	YES	3723	0100	1800	KB9ROB
WSSN	YES	3645	0130	1830	WA9ZTY
WIN/W	YES	3662	0200	1900	WB9ICH
WIN/L	YES	3662	0300	2200	W9UW
RCRA	NO	01/61	0030	1930	KA9OMC
(Mondays CDT— Menomonie Area)					
Green Bay Area	NO	72/12	0245	2145	WB9NRK
ARES	NO	4.65/5.25	0200	2100	
(South East/South Central Wisconsin)					

STM Report Wisconsin Section July 2003

FAQ #14 – Why is there a novice net if there are no novices?

Some of the ham-gram traffic lately suggests participating in a CW net. That’s a great idea for every Ham to do occasionally, just to see how it’s done. It gives an operator some comfort if the process is needed in an emergency. (Check out the February 2003 STM Report for detailed instructions.)

A CW net is especially helpful for new hams – and the Wisconsin Novice Net is just the place to begin. When the net starts at six each evening on 3723 kHz., it’s clear that the purpose of the net is training. The net control station will always slow to the speed of a station checking in, although the regular net speed isn’t much over 5 w.p.m.

A net such as the WNN moves slowly

enough for stations to follow easily, refer to Operating Aid FSD-218 (the famous pink card), and even handle some traffic. It’s a great way to learn a valuable skill.

Any traffic handling can be good practice, and NTS traffic in the proper format is a very good model. Please mention the WNN as well as local VHF nets to the new Hams you train or meet.

Your STM had fun discussing traffic handling with the Racine/Kenosha ARES group in July. If your club or ARES/ RACES unit would like a presentation on the NTS and how traffic is passed, let K9LGU know. Maybe you could send him a message on the WNN? 73 – K9LGU/ STM-WI

STM Report Wisconsin Section August 2003

FAQ #15 – What happens to the nets

when the conditions are lousy?

Bad conditions give us an excellent proving ground to test our skills and equipment. The use of relays, precise sending, accurate receiving, and savvy net controls will help us fight even the worst aurora, the noisiest atmospherics, and even the extra-long skip if we can get help from our neighbors. If conditions are bad, and you don’t hear a net on frequency, don’t hesitate to ask. Perhaps we’re just missing a net control. Maybe you’re in just the right spot to act a liaison. Sideband doesn’t cut it? Try CW. The nets will continue to meet on schedule despite the band conditions and your participation might make an even bigger difference. It’s a challenge, but we’re up to it.

Welcome to new net controls --- N9MGK, W9PBB, KA9RZL, W9GHT, and special thanks to those who fill in when necessary like W9RSX, WA9ZTY and W9KKM. 73 - K9LGU/STM-WI

WISCONSIN SECTION MONTHLY NET ACTIVITY SUMMARY July 2003

NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SSNS	NM
BWN	1347	1587	2325	31	W9RCW
BEN	449	65	760	29	KE9VU
WSBN	609	98	872	30	K9FHI
WNN	157	17	308	28	KB9ROB
WSSN	171	27	353	29	WA9ZTY
WIN/E	204	76	309	31	WB9ICH
WIN/L	236	62	414	31	W9UW
WRACES					
JUNE	117	6	210	5	N6NKO
Totals	3290	1938	5551	214	

WISCONSIN SECTION MONTHLY NET ACTIVITY SUMMARY August 2003

NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SSNS	NM
BWN	1316	1649	2335	31	W9RCW
BEN	465	56	754	31	KE9VU
WSBN	594	85	840	30	N9ZET
WNN	126	25	337	30	KB9ROB
WSSN	165	30	356	31	WA9ZTY
WIN/E	193	48	287	29	WB9ICH
WIN/L	251	70	439	31	W9UW
WRACES					
July	85	2	173	4	N6NKO
WRACES					
August	105	0	210	5	N6NKO
Totals	3300	1965	5731	222	

Check us out on the web at
[Http://www.bsسسs.org](http://www.bsسسs.org)

P S H R SUMMARY July 2003

CALL	1	2	3	4	5	6	T
N9TVT	40	40	10	465	0	0	555
N9VE	35	40	30	160	65	0	330
K9JPS	40	40	10	125	0	0	215
W9RCW	40	40	30	90	0	0	200
KA9RZL	40	21	20	90	0	0	171
WD9FLJ	40	31	10	80	0	10	131
AG9G	40	40	20	25	0	0	125
K9LGU	40	40	30	0	10	0	120
KB9KEG	40	40	20	0	10	10	120
W9BHL	40	40	30	0	0	0	110
W9CBE	40	40	20	0	0	0	100
W9RSX	40	7	10	0	0	0	57
N9VE							
JUNE	40	40	30	305	5	0	420
KB9KEG							
JUNE	40	35	20	0	0	10	105
N6NKO							
JUNE	15	3	30	35	0	20	103

P S H R SUMMARY August 2003

CALL	1	2	3	4	5	6	T
N9TVT	40	40	10	360	0	0	450
K9JPS	40	40	10	140	0	0	230
W9RCW	40	40	30	105	0	0	215
K9LGU	40	40	20	50	0	0	150
WA9ZTY	40	40	30	10	10	0	130
AG9G	40	40	20	25	0	0	125
W9BHL	40	40	30	0	0	0	110
KA9RZL	40	27	30	15	0	0	107
N6NKO							
August	13	0	30	40	0	20	103
W9CBE	40	40	20	0	0	0	100
WD9FLJ	40	18	10	20	0	10	98
N6NKO							
July	10	2	30	30	0	20	92
W9RSX	40	20	10	0	0	0	70

WISCONSIN SECTION STATION ACTIVITY SUMMARY July 2003

STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TOTAL
K0JPS	0	531	34	528	1089 - BPL
K9GU	0	245	32	251	528 -BPL
N9VE	0	183	26	176	385 - BPL*
W9RCW	0	185	12	167	364 - BPL*
N9TVT	0	112	206	0	318
W9IHW	1	118	32	117	267 - BPL*
W9CBE	0	128	109	4	241
K9LGU	5	95	75	1	176
AG9G	0	23	73	0	96
WA9ZTY	0	33	40	2	75
W9UW	0	43	12	2	57
KE9VU	0	20	33	0	53
W9BHL	0	4	35	1	40
K9FHI	0	1	32	0	33
N9NNN	0	0	32	0	32
WD9FLJ	9	7	10	5	31
KB9ROB	0	23	4	1	28
AA9BB	0	0	0	23	23
KA9RZL	4	10	6	1	21
WB9ICH	0	18	2	0	20
W9PVD	0	7	8	0	15
W9RSX	0	1	5	1	7
N6NKO-JUNE	0	1	4	0	5

WISCONSIN SECTION STATION ACTIVITY SUMMARY August 2003

STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TOTAL
K9JPS	0	437	34	427	898 - BPL
K9GU	0	182	32	177	391 – BPL*
W9RCW	0	158	42	158	353 – BPL*

(Continued on page 8)

The Computer Corner

By Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR • 105 Martin Drive
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Skaplan@mcw.edu



No. 111. Wireless Networking

- by Richard Polivka, N6NKO

[This month we have a guest author. Richard (our Wisconsin ARES/RACES HF Net Manager), reminds us of a possible security hole that needs to be plugged. This is especially pertinent and important in this day and age, and becomes increasingly important as more of us are networking with wireless devices. Take a look, and remember Richard's words in the future if you set up a wireless network. Stan]

We have been told time and again to improve our security processes because of the undesirable changes in the world we live in. Everyone has to become more conscious of their surroundings and what is going on around them. Yet, one of the more innocuous items can escape our vigilance, and it can present some real grief in the end.

Probably the most active advance in communications right now is data transmission using the 802.11b networking protocols, more commonly known as "Wi-Fi". These wireless networking products allow computers to talk to networks without wires. Usually a company or an individual will have a Wireless Access Port (WAP) tied to their network with resulting access to the Internet. This is where the trouble starts.

Wired networks, by design, are quite secure since you must be physically wired to the network to use its facilities. Having a wireless port to the network opens up the possibility of anyone with the correct software and hardware to access your network and compromise the assets attached. Let me explain how this is done and how to protect your system from unwanted use and intrusion.

I have a laptop that has a wireless networking card installed in it. I use a freeware program that sends out ID packets, looking for responses, and it also just listens for broadcasts by other computers. The returned information is then displayed and recorded. The program displays the channel number, the SSID, manufacturer of the WAP, the MAC ID of the monitored WAP, whether or not the WAP is using Wireless Encryption Protocol (WEP), and the received signal strength. The breakdown is as follows: Channel Number is the channel that the WAP is listening to – there are 12 channels assigned to the US, the first six are in the 2.4 GHz amateur band and the rest are in the ISM band. The SSID is the identifier (station ID) of the WAP; and whether or not the Wireless Encryption Protocol (WEP) is being used.

I did a drive from my residence to my daughter's school and then into the office, a total of about 9-11 miles, with my laptop running the wireless networking card and the "sniffer" program. The results of my "war-driving" are as follows: 12 WAPs were located. Two were using encryption, six of them still had the factory default SSID in the port, only two channels were used out of twelve (Ch. 1 and Ch. 6), and two company's WAPs were unsecured. By knowing the SSID of the WAP and that it is unencrypted, I would just have to change the SSID of my laptop to the broadcasted SSID and viola! I will be using someone else's account for access, either for legitimate or illegitimate usage, if I was feeling a bit larcenous.

So, what does this have to do with security? An unsecured WAP is just begging for trouble to your ISP, your ISP account, your computers, and your network. How does one go about securing a WAP to minimize the possibility of intrusion? There are a few rules that need to be followed:

1. Change your SSID from the default setting
2. Turn off SSID broadcasting / identification (Loose lips sink ships)
3. Use 128 bit encryption
4. Change your encryption password on a weekly basis
5. Use a firewall program, such as ZoneAlarm Pro

Even with the SSID broadcasting turned off, if the WAP is in use by a remote PC, it can be seen. Be aware that the WEP encoding sequence has been cracked and that there are programs out there that can catch your packets and after receiving enough data (about 1 GB), can come up with the password and an intruder can get into your network. This is why I suggest changing your password on a short, regular basis. I change my WEP passphrase every week or sooner. If a WAP is being used at a company, it should not be interfaced directly to the building network. Since WEP encoding is so easily cracked, it would behoove the company from a network security point to have the WAP talk to a router that is configured to use Point-to-Point Tunneling Protocol (PPTP) for another level of network protection before accessing the building network.

With some common sense, 802.11b networking can be used to your advantage but it takes a little TLC to be safe and secure. Just remember the rules presented above and apply them religiously. Happy networking!

No. 112. A (FREE!) Computer Cart

Need a computer stand for your desktop or laptop? Here is one that is small, easily moved, and has both an adequate workspace and a shelf. Cost? Nada. Nil. Nichts. Nothing. Best of all, you are contributing to the recycling program by salvaging parts that probably would have gone into a landfill, and giving them a second chance to be useful for many additional years.

Find a dealer that sells Weber gas grills. Very likely, they will have a "bone yard" in the back where old grills await the trash. Find one that has both wheels intact and the frame (1 inch square steel tubing) appears not to be broken. Ask if you can take the frame (leave the grill burner and cover for aluminum recyclers – these parts are solid, cast aluminum). Use a 7/16-inch wrench to disassemble the frame into either 5 or 6 pieces (depending on the particular model). If the wood/metal bracket trays are in good condition, save those too. Save the bolts and black plastic washers under the bolt heads. The frame and wheels easily fit in a small car's trunk when disassembled. Cart it all home.

Break off and discard the plastic "hubcaps" and the metal retaining ring under the hubcap. Slide off the wheels and remove the axel from the frame. Drill a hole for a cotter pin about 1/4 inch in from each end of the axel (or, you can give the store some business by purchasing a new retaining rings and hubcaps). Clean and brighten the axel shaft with steel wool and give it a quick spray with clear plastic coating. Remove the black plastic washers from the bolts and buff the bolts on a wire wheel to remove any rust and dirt. Put the washers back on the bolts, reversing their position so that any cupping will face the frame. Wash the wheels and dig out any pebbles stuck in the tread.

Remove the black plastic tubing ends from all the square frame components (pry one corner with a knife and then use a screwdriver along each side). Wash the tubing ends and remaining square frame components with soap and water to remove any grease, and let them drain and dry. Sand the tubing lightly with fine sandpaper or steel wool to dull the sheen and give each component a light spray with gloss black paint, to make them look brand new.

Reassemble the frame when the paint is dry, starting with the axel and wheels (the other vertical frame member is longer than the one that holds the wheels, and it has no axel holes). When done, replace the black plastic tubing ends on the bottom of the vertical frame element that has no wheels, and on the four ends of the horizontal elements. You need 6, so go back to the store and get any missing ones from other junked frames, or buy new ones. Hard-

ware stores carry them new, too, but if you go that route bring an old one to match the correct size.

You now have a lightweight but strong cart frame that is quite stable until you lift the handles to roll it on its wheels. Cut whatever plywood, composition board or other material you like for the top work surface and bottom shelf. Keep the bottom shelf the size of the bottom frame, and cut notches in the shelf to match the vertical members. No fastening hardware is needed if you do the notching carefully – just tip the shelf in place. Make the top work surface as large as you like within reason. Don't forget to leave about 6 inches of horizontal tubing free at the end opposite the wheels, so you can grasp them as handles when you want to move the cart. One approach to fastening the top work surface is to drill and tap four 8 or 10/32 holes in the frame top, for screws that go through the board. Use taper-head screws and countersink the holes in the board so that they do not protrude above the board.

You should observe one caution when using the cart for computers. Monitors are heavy! If you put a monitor on the top work surface, be sure it is between the two vertical frame elements. You can put your computer "box" anywhere on the bottom shelf, but do arrange things so that if you remove the box, the weight of the monitor won't tip the whole cart!

My first computer cart never got to see a computer! They make wonderful mobile workbenches, and even great storage carts that can be easily moved and repositioned. Be prepared. If you make one, you will likely make more than one. My first two wound up as garage workbenches, and three more are in my computer workshop in the basement, one as a student workstation. I just finished another frame yesterday that will go in my office.

Now here is another recycling tip, especially useful if you used rough material for the top work surface and bottom shelf. Go to your hardware or other store where they sell pull-down window shades. Ask if you can snag a couple of discarded shades from the trash. Use them to cover the shelves in your project (and your workbench, too!). The plastic in these shades is nearly white and makes a wonderful surface to work on because of its texture and light-reflective nature. It is easily cut with a razor knife to conform to whatever surface you are covering. Use masking tape to hold it in place along all edges. When it gets dirty or torn (or full of solder burns on your workbench), simply pull it off and put on a new piece. I promise that, if you try this once on your workbench, you will love it. And it is one more item that gets a second use before hitting the landfill. Happy computing!

Check us out on the web at
[Http://www.bsos.org](http://www.bsos.org)

Mancorad Radio Club

Theresa Hartlaub, KB9KXE
Secretary

P.O. Box 294 • Manitowoc, WI
54221-0204



2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61

The August 2003 meeting of the Mancorad Radio Club was brought to order by President Fred (W6BSF) at 7:30 on Aug. 13th. The minutes of last meeting were not read.

The secretary's report was given by Dick (N9QFY) and accepted by the body. He will look into options available for the cd which is coming up for renewal.

Old Business:

Steve (N9PBL) wrote a thank you for all the volunteers who helped with the Leukemia Bike-a-thon. Especially those who helped on Saturday. Things went smoothly and all bikers were on their way on Sunday.

Ron (WB9MFB) contacted Fred with an update on the Viebahn tower. There were sway braces installed on the tower on July 17th. He supplied the braces. The G7 vertical will be changed in September-October. Thank you-Ron.

Dennis (W9DWN) is checking on operating from the Two Rivers lighthouse. He needs to contact the new commander about this. He will give an update at a later date.

Two dates have already been set for next year aboard the Cobia submarine. One at the end of April and in July. The weekend in April will be a sleep over.

New Business:

There will be a Kewaunee Nuclear Drill on Sept. 23-24th. Contact Fred if you can help in any way. Also ARES/RACES meeting on Sept. 17th. Yearly elections are coming up in October.

The September meeting of the Mancorad Radio Club was brought to order by President Fred (W6BSF) at 7:30 pm on September 10th.

The Sept. meeting minutes were summarized by Vice President Carl (KA9WYK) and approved by the membership in attendance.

The Treasurers report was read by President Fred (W6BSF) and approved by the membership in attendance.

Old Business:

Dick (N9QFY) moved the CD money to a savings account. At least we have access to it without penalty.

It was suggested we start a scholarship and a scholarship committee. We will bring this up again after the elections. ARES/RACES,

Free Dosimetry training (radiation detection) on September 11, 2003, 7:00 pm at the Manitowoc Sheriff Dept.

There is also a ARES/RACES meeting on September 17 at 7:30 to get prepared for the Nuclear drill on September 23 + 24 at the Club shack. Fred (W6BSF) and Travis (KB9YRC) will be at the Club shack ay 6:45 pm.

New Business:

A reminder! If you want to renew your license on line you only can do it within 90 days of your expiration date. There are a number of proposals to eliminate the Morse code as a requirement. Check out the FCC website for more details.

Holy Family Hospital has a Hospice program

Most positions will be open. So everyone is encouraged to run for an office.

Please give it serious thought.

There are 2 copies of a training cd on weather spotting. They are available to club members to be checked out.

Highway cleanup will be held on Aug. 20th. Meet at 6:00 at the Two Creeks fire station. Go north on 42 out of Two Rivers until Tapawingo Road. It is across from the Point Beach Nuclear Plant.

Ken Tate has donated 2 antennas to the club. If anyone is interested or looking for one, please contact Fred. Any profit we make on selling these will be the club's. Thank you to Ken for these.

The attendance pot goes to 11.00. Vern was not here.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42. The next meeting will be on Sept. 10th at 7:30 at the club shack. Board meeting at 6:30.

Lunch was served.

Submitted respectively,
Theresa (KB9KXE), Secretary

Meeting Attendance:

KB9KXE Theresa	KB9YRC Travis
N4WGK Denise	W9NPX Roger
KB9GOY Mary	WB9OBX Ken
KC9AAH Shawn	WB9VYO Vic
N9GHE Red	KB9KEM Dick
NZ9Z John	KB9VLS Chris
N9QFO Len	K9HAG Ken
N9AWG Rahlf	N9QFY Dick
W6BSF Fred	KB9KXF Gene

on October 4, 2003. Free admission at UW Manitowoc. They would like you to donate to the cause.

Fred (W6BSF) would like to see an Amateur Radio program in the schools. The ARRL has materials for this type of program. If you want to get involved in this contact Fred (W6BSF).

Dan (N9NCU) was contacted about a special event at the Nuclear plants on February 28th 2004. He will report back on the progress at the October meeting.

John (NZ9Z) reported on Lighthouse activity. John (NZ9Z) scoped out the Manitowoc North lighthouse. The Amateur Lighthouse Association seems to be the best one for our situation. We could operate on land in sight of the Lighthouse. John (NZ9Z) will report back. Ken Tate is donating 2 antennas. We were thinking of replacing the club beam with a KLM antenna and using the JR for contests such as Field Day.

K9EAZ has some equipment for sale, TS940SAT, Ham4, Mosley TA34, and a 50 ft crank-up tower.

Committee report:

Backup Repeater Committee, Bob (WB9INK) gave a report on the status of the backup repeater. The repeater is by Franks Radio being checked out. We will need to purchase a controller and some new coax. We will be using the old G7 antenna for this repeater.

The family picnic is next Saturday Sept 27, at Lincoln Park 12:00-6:00 pm. Contact Bob

7)

Wisconsin Valley Radio Association

Jerry Graebel - W9GLG

P.O. Box 363 • Wausau, WI

Meeting Minutes of August 5, 2003 at Marshfield Clinic - Wausau Center.

President Mark Rasmussen called meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Present: N9NMH, KB9STB, KC9ASL, KC9AEJ, KB9VBR, W9GLG, N9MO, W9PBB, N9LIA, N9PHC, KB9ZOF, WA9NBC, K9YF, KC9DOQ, WD9CPY, K9MIX, K9QM, WB2TLQ, KB9YDP, N9UAG, N9KNY, KC9DOR, KC9CIY, N9SDL, N9SDI, W9WW, N9NRA, N3FDE, KC9ANA, K9DB, KB9DED, KB9YPS, N9MEA, KC9DOS

Program: There was no program due to the presentation on the relocation of the repeaters from Rib Mountain to the Fox 55 tower.

Treasurer's Report:

Motion to accept: KB9STB Second: KB9DED

Secretary's Report: Minutes of the June 3, 2003 meeting were accepted as published in Badger State Smoke Signals and/or posted on the WVRA Web Site. <http://www.wvraclub.org>.

Old Business:

1. Michael, KB9VBR will be going to the Medford Club to give an APRS demo. If anyone would like to join him and help it will be the first week in September. Michael can be contacted on the 146.640 repeater or kb9vbr@wvraclub.org.

2. ARES - Myron, KB9STB informed the members that the CPR and First Aid class went well. He is in the process of planning a drill for the ARES members that could take place in the next month or so.

3. Nets are going well. The 75-meter voice net will begin again in September. Some of the members have expressed an idea of a PSK31 net on 80 meters. If you are interested please let Michael, KB9VBR know.

4. There will be a Special Event from the Whitewater Park in Wausau on August 23rd and 24th. Set up is planned for 9:00 a.m., and on the air at 11:00 a.m. If you can help with setup, operating or would like to help to explain Amateur Radio to the public, please contact Jerry, W9GLG at w9glg@wvraclub.org.

5. Kim, N9SDL gave a report on the Field Day event. The club had about the same number of points as last year but there were more bonus points than contacts. The building and use of an 80-meter loop and six-meter beam antennas at the park was a good idea.

6. Matt, N9NMH had fliers for the Grays Lake Ham Fest. He wanted to make it clear to all that the dates on the flier are wrong. The event will be September 20 and 21st. If you have made plans please try to take note of the error.

7. Myron, KB9STB informed all that there will be another Technician level class to be held on October 18th and 19th at the American Legion in Wausau. If you know of anyone interested or need more information please contact Myron at kb9stb@wvraclub.org. The class will require that you have a copy of the book "Now you're Talking". The class will be based on this book. A VE testing session for all classes will follow.

8. The trailer is painted and was on display for Field Day. Wausau Sign did the painting. I would like to say that Matt, N9NMH, who gave a lot of his time to this, that the trailer looks great. Well-done Matt.

9. Cindy, Mrs. W9GLG would like to know if anyone would be interested in a Ham of the year banquet? If you could Email her with the answers to a few questions she would appreciate it. Do you think this is a good way to show support for the "Ham of the Year"? Would you be interested in attending the dinner banquet? If you could choose a day to have the banquet on, which would you choose, Monday - Thursday - Saturday? How much would you consider paying for a dinner? \$12.00 to \$15.00 \$15.00 to

\$20.00 \$20.00 or more.

10. The article about Reno Goetsch, W9NA, appeared in the Wausau Daily Herald, Sunday edition. Myron, KB9STB did a good job to get the article printed.

Matt, N9NMH and Jon, KC9AEJ put together a Power Point presentation and handouts about the tower sight for the repeaters. Matt began by showing pictures of the Rib Mountain sight and explained that there would be no heat or air conditioning in the new building there. The space that the club would use was an unsecured hallway and general storage area. The other problems with this sight would be our ability to get access, relocation of the APRS and 220 antennas would be almost impossible. The lease would have been for 5 years, one dollar a year, but could be broken at any time by the Joint Venture Group if they found someone who would pay for the tower space. If they found someone we would have to move or pay the fee they could get from the other party. It was because of the uncertain conditions on Rib Mountain and the open door with Fox 55 that the Board decided to commit to the move.

Matt then gave the location and description of the tower at H10039 Maple Rd, Wausau, and Town of Hewitt. N45 degrees 03' 21.4" by W089 degrees 27' 57.2" and an elevation of 1532'. He showed pictures of the building and tower at the sight along with descriptions. He showed that there would be a door to give us access to our equipment and a cage to separate it from the rest of the inside of building. K&M Electric and Scott, N9NQQ have wired power to where the repeater will be. Scott also put in a switch for the use of a generator for emergency power.

Matt gave an overview of the desired antenna placements and the equipment that would be needed for the project. Plots of the repeaters coverage from Rib Mountain and Fox 55 were compared. The main purpose for the antenna to be placed at the higher tower position was to give HT coverage from the Wausau East area and for the southwest side of Rib Mountain.

Matt explained that all of our antennas and repeater equipment must be off Rib Mountain by the end of August. There was much discussion on the proposal and some question as to the need for all of the repeaters (APRS and 220). The club had received an offer from Len, N9QIP to let us use 1000 ft. of 1 1/4" hard line so we could put the antennas at the 765 foot level on the tower. We could use the line but we would have to replace it or pay him for it when we have the money. It was mentioned that we can't make a commitment like that without having the funds. For any members that may have missed last night's club meeting, Adobe PDFs of the Repeater Move Project presentation are available on the web site:

<http://www.wvraclub.org/kc9aej/repeaterMoveProject.pdf>

The presentation appendices are available at:

<http://www.wvraclub.org/kc9aej/>

There where three scenarios that could happen.

#1 Temporary placement at about 300 - 400 ft. at a cost of about \$325

#2 Len's, N9QIP offer to use the hard line and pay for his crew to install the antennas at the higher point on the tower at a cost of about \$2000.

#3 Permanent Equipment and tower locations at a cost of about \$24,000.

Motion was made by Don, W9WW to proceed with #1 and not exceed \$500 in expenses with no future commitment of the necessary funds. Second was by Jack, N9LIA. Motion passed.

Motion was made by Myron KB9STB that the club seek to raise the \$24,000 for the entire project

(Continued on page 7)

Wisconsin Valley Radio Association

(Continued from page 6)
from grants and other sources. Second by Terry, KB9YPS. Don, W9WW asked for an amendment to the motion that 1/2 the money be raised by members and 1/2 from grants and other sources. Vote on the amendment failed. The motion passed.

Michael, KB9VBR made a motion that the club proceed to form a committee to organize the raising of the fund. Second by Lisa, KC9DOS. Motion passed. Members who have volunteered to be on the committee are Michael - KB9VBR, Gary - WD9CPY, Marie - N9YYU, Mike - KB9DED, Chris - KC9BME, Lance - KC9CIY, Terry - KB9YPS, Jon - KC9AEJ, Trenia - KC9ASL, Bob - WA9NBC.

Meeting adjourned at 9:23 P.M KB9STB Second - KB9DED

The next meeting will be Tuesday September 2, 2003 at 7:00 P.M. at the Marshfield Clinic Wausau Center Cafeteria. (Formerly known as the Wausau Medical Center). Park and enter from the Employee parking lot on west side of the building. Call in on 2-meter club repeater if you need directions: frequency is 146.640 (pl 114.8).

Respectfully submitted,
Jerry Graebel - W9GLG (w9glg@arrl.net)
WVRA Secretary

Meeting Minutes of September 2, 2003 at Marshfield Clinic - Wausau Center.

President Mark Rasmussen called meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Present: N9MO, KC9AEJ, KB9DED, K9MIX, KB9RXA, N9NRC, K9JXW, K9DB, W9WW, KC9ANA, KC9BSK, KB9ZOF, W9PBB, N9TTA, N9LIA, WD9CPY, KC9IK, N9MEA, KC9DOS, KC9ASL, KB9STB, K9JPS, WS9E, KC9NW, W9IXG, W9GLG, KB9YDP, KC9CIY, WA9NBC, KB9VBR.

Program: Don Michalski, W9IXG came to the meeting to give a presentation about the ARRL. Don is the Section Manager for Wisconsin. He explained the structure and responsibilities of the Wisconsin Section.

He explained the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Program. There are number of courses available to anyone. The cost varies for members and nonmembers but if you are an ARRL member you will be reimbursed upon successful completion of the course. For more information on the courses go to <http://www.arrl.org/cce/>.

He told the members of the new sixty-meter allocation and how it came to be. He was one of the operators who participated in the testing with all involved, using the special call WA2XSY/XX at 200 watts and a dipole antenna. The tests were run on a non-interference basis from 5.100 to 5.450 MHz.

He next explained the importance of the ARRL's effort to stop the Broad Band over Power Lines. This could have a great affect on Amateur Radio because of the interference it will cause.

He told the members of news that the FCC was entertaining the idea to raise the power and duration beyond that of Part 15. The tests made to this point show that even at the low power limit the interference is quite intolerable. He has a video that he would show a little later in the meeting showing the severity of the interference. The spectrum used for the BPL is from 2-80 MHz. He also explained and encouraged the participation in the ARRL AMATEUR RADIO EDUCATION & TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM Aka "The Big Project". For more information, go to <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/tbp/>.

Treasurer's Report:
Motion to accept: KB9STB S e c -
ond: K9MIX

Secretary's Report: Minutes of the June 3, 2003 meeting were accepted as published in Badger State Smoke Signals and/or posted on the WVRA Web Site. <http://www.wvraclub.org>.

Old Business:
1. Myron, KB9STB informed the members that the ARES information would be updated on the

Club Web page soon. The ARES meetings will also be starting again soon now that the summer is over.

2. There was no new information on the Club Trailer at this time.

3. Jerry, W9GLG said that the Special Event for the Pan-Am Cup from Wausau's Whitewater Park went well. The station set up by Mike, KB9DED and Jerry made contacts with 32 states and Canada. The Battleship New Jersey, NJ2BB called as well as 5 Club stations. There was also a guest operator, Bob, W9AKS who was working at the event. Mike, KB9DED talked to many people about Amateur Radio.

4. There will be a Technician class held on October 18th and 19th followed by a VE testing session for all elements at the American Legion on Golf Club Road in Wausau. If you intend to take the class you will need a copy of the ARRL book "Now You're Talking". There are still a few openings left for the class. If you need the book, more information or wish to register for the class contact Myron at kb9stb@wvraclub.org. If you plan to upgrade or are a VE who can help with the exam session on Sunday contact Jerry at w9glg@wvraclub.org.

5. The added expense for the tower crew on the repeater project passed at a special meeting August 26th. The work on the repeater will be done during the day but at the convenience of the new crew. The date is not known at this time.

6. The CD of the BPL was played at this point.

7. Michael, KB9VBR reported on the progress of the Fund Raising Committee. He explained the four-point plan they have. The first look will be to the members, then fund raising events, grants and donations raise by the members contacting businesses in the area. If you can help or are interested in being on the committee, there will be a meeting on September 11th at the home of Michael, KB9VBR, at 7:00 p.m. or contact him at kb9vbr@wvraclub.org.

New Business:

1. Bill, WB2TLQ has resigned as the Public Information Officer on the Board of Directors. If you are interested in the office until April, please get in touch with any of the Board members.

2. Myron, KB9STB had a little time on his hands lately and has created a newsletter called "The Carrier". He has plans to send it by Email as soon as

he gets it converted from a Publisher format to a Word format. If you have any stories or articles you wish to contribute, send them to kb9stb@wvraclub.org.

3. Myron, KB9STB, will lead the Halloween Patrol again this year. The date is not known yet but if you can help contact him.

4. Jack, N9LIA informed the members that the date for the MS Walk would be April 25th for 2004.

Myron, KB9STB and the members thanked Don, W9IXG for taking the time to come to the meeting and give a wonderful presentation.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23 P.M KB9STB, Second - KB9DED

The next meeting will be Tuesday October 7, 2003 at 7:00 P.M. at the Marshfield Clinic Wausau Center Cafeteria. (Formerly known as the Wausau Medical Center). Park and enter from the Employee parking lot on west side of the building. Call in on 2-meter club repeater if you need directions: frequency is 146.640 (pl 114.8).

Respectfully submitted,
Jerry Graebel - W9GLG (w9glg@arrl.net)

TECHNICAN CLASSES
WAUSAU, WI

On the weekend of October 18 and 19, the Wisconsin Valley Radio Association in Wausau will be holding a weekend workshop for anyone interested in getting their Technician level amateur radio license. The workshop will be all day Saturday and part of Sunday with a testing session (for all license classes) Sunday afternoon October 19. Location will be the American Legion Golf Course on the northeast side of Wausau.

For the workshop, the ARRL's *Now You're Talking* will be the required text which can be purchased for \$19.99 on the ARRL website. Since there is a revised test question pool, the new version of the book will be needed. It is highly recommended to purchase the book and become familiar with the contents of the book before the workshop. There is no cost for the workshop itself-the only costs will be the textbook and testing fee.

Class size will be limited to the first 25 inter-

ested people. To respond or if you have any questions, please contact Myron Oestreich KB9STB-email address is kb9stb@wvraclub.org .

Thank you for your time.

73, Myron Oestreich, KB9STB
Vice President, Wisconsin Valley Radio Association
Assistant Emergency Coordinator, Marathon Co. ARES

Mancorad Radio Club

(Continued from page 6)
(WB9INK) if you are coming so the picnic committee will know how much to bring.

The attendance pot goes to \$12.00. Dan (N9FVZ) left early. Meeting adjourned at 8:56pm. The next meeting will be on October 8th. This is the election meeting. Please consider running for office. No Lunch was served.

Respectively Submitted,
Carl (KA9WYK) , Vice President.

MEETING ATTENDANCE			
W6BSF	Fred	N9FVZ	Dan
KC9AAH	Shawn	N9GHE	Red
W9NPX	Roger	N4WGK	Denise
KA9WYK	Carl	NZ9Z	John
N9NCU	Dan	KB9INK	Bob
KB9EME	Vern	W9OUT	Hub
WB9DQD	Gene	K9DUX	Bill

"I don't think they could put him in a mental hospital. On the other hand, if he were already in, I don't think they'd let him out."

This sentence does in fact not have the property it claims not to have.

Black Holes are where God divided by zero.

All those who believe in psycho kinesis raise MY hand.

Ok so what's the speed of Dark?

When the chips are down, the buffalo is empty.

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8 OCTOBER 2003 ■ BADGER STATE SMOKE SIGNALS

(Continued from page 4)

W9IHW	0	117	33	116	266 – BPL*
N9TVT	0	93	172	0	265
K9LGU	0	90	63	2	155
W9CBE	0	58	67	2	127
WA9ZTY	0	38	42	7	87
W9UW	0	50	30	0	80
AG9G	0	16	58	0	74
K9FHI	0	11	37	0	48
W9BHL	0	8	40	0	48
N9NNN	0	0	33	0	33
KB9ROB	0	24	3	1	28
AA9BB	0	0	27	0	27
WB9ICH	0	18	4	0	22
W9RSX	0	5	11	4	20
KA9RZL	0	24	3	0	18
WD9FLJ	6	3	6	3	18
KJ9W	3	0	3	0	6
W9PVD	0	1	0	0	1
N6NKO-July	0	0	1	0	1
N6NKO August	0	0	0	0	0

WISCONSIN SECTION MANAGER NEWS SUMMARY

August 2003

WISCONSIN: SM: Don Michalski, W9IXG, SEC: WB9RQR, STM: K9LGU, ACC: Open, SGL: AD9X, OOC: N9VE, PIC: W9UQ. TC: K9GDF, BM: WB9NRK, ASM: K9UTQ, W9RCW, W9CBE, N9VE, W9DGI.

With regret, I inform you of the passing of Le Roy Dilger, W5VCR, 83, and Raymond Redlin, W9ZTP, 85.

Reno W. Goetsch, W9NA was recently named Amateur Radio Operator of the Year for 2002 by the Wisconsin Valley Radio Association. Originally licensed as a teenager in the 1930's. Over his 70 years as an amateur radio operator, Goetsch successfully contacted all countries in the world once as well as achieving DXCC status on five different high frequency bands, and 5 Band Worked All States.

Congratulations to Fond du Lac ARC for establishing a new record score of almost 715K points in the WIQPI! Also, to K5OT for taking top honors with 170K points!

There has been a recent rash of Wisconsin communities attempting to establish questionable antenna restrictions. I wish to remind you that there is help available to fight unreasonable restrictions. The first place to go to is the Wisconsin section site. Jim Lackore, AD9X, our SGL, has written some good articles on the subject. You, also, have the recent Wisconsin Act 50 bill to aid your case. The full bill is on this site. Also, don't forget that there are Volunteer Counsels to give you professional advice. Go to: <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/local/vc-vce.html> for more information. The ARRL has an excellent book on Antenna Zoning. You and your lawyer may need to refer to this book to put together a strong case for reasonable accommodation. If you would like to see an example of reasonable legislation, contact me and I'll send you the requirements and steps taken in Madison. Sometimes, all it takes for a community struggling to formulate legislation is to model something that works in another community. Keep your ears to the rail and get in on the ground floor before something is cast in concrete that will be hard to change later. Help is available!

For a club to remain actively listed with ARRL, an update from the club, at least once per year, or as often as changes necessitate, is required. If you have not submitted an update with ARRL recently, please follow these instructions: To report changes in club data, please go to our web site at <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/forms/fsd2/> Follow the instructions under the header "how to submit an update for your club records". Once the updates are received here, the database is updated and then at the end of the day, a report is run to update the club listing on the web page. If your club is a SSC, please be sure that is also updated. The SSC renewal form is located at www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/forms/fsd7/renewal.html

ELECTRONIC CLUB NEWSLETTERS WANTED!! ARRL is working to improve club pages on the web. We need your help. We love receiving club newsletters! Our favorite way of receiving them is by email. If your club has an electronic newsletter, could you please send it that way? If you are already doing so, thank you. Receiving them this way will allow us to feature highlights and excerpts from club newsletters in our new club area. Send to: clubs@arrl.org

STM Report -- July, 2003: Some of the ham-gram traffic lately suggests participating in a CW net. It's especially helpful for new hams -- and the Wisconsin Novice Net (6 p.m. 3723kHz) is just the place. The net control station will always slow to the speed of a station checking in, although the regular net speed isn't much over 5 w.p.m. so operators can follow easily, refer to Operating Aid FSD-218 (the famous pink card), and even handle some traffic. Please mention the WNN as well as local VHF nets to the new Hams you train or meet. If your club or ARES/RACES unit would like a presentation on the NTS and how traffic is passed, let K9LGU know. Maybe you could send him a message on the WNN? 73 -- K9LGU/STM WI

Upcoming license classes are posted on the Wisconsin site- <http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=WI>. If you want your class listed, send me the information! 73, Don W9IXG w9ixg@arrl.org 608-274-1886

ARRL Wisconsin Section

Section Manager: Donald E. Michalski, W9IXG

w9ixg@arrl.org

WISCONSIN SM NEWS SUMMARY

September 2003

WISCONSIN: SM: Don Michalski, W9IXG. BWN 3985 0500-0715 W9IXG. BEN 3985 1200 KE9VU. WSBN 3985 1730-1800 N9ZET. WNN 3723 1800 KB9ROB. WSSN 3645 1830 WA9ZTY. WIN-E 3662 1900 WB9ICH. WIN-L 3662 2200 W9UW. CTN 3994 Mondays @ 2000 KC9IS (All times are Central)

With regret, I inform you of the passing of Jim Molledahl, W9BI, 84. Also, Terry Haima, KB9VIO, 32. Terry was the Fond du Lac County ARES AEC for SKYWARN. John Gibson, K9PGE, 80, is a Silent Key.

On August 9, 2003 the W9EAU Special Event Station operated from the W0AIH antenna farm. Over 300 contacts where made. TV13, NBC affiliate in Eau Claire WI, video taped the event and interviewed Bob Fallis, W9BAR, retired Chief Engineer for WEAU TV13. The following club members participated in the event; W0AIH, W9BAR, W9RMA, W9AVM, W9SWL, WD9HFT, AB9GK, KC9CDX, W5JLM and KG9RA.

I would like to thank those of you who have taken the time to contact the FCC regarding the Broadband over Power Line (BPL) issue. While the gate is official closed for additional comments, I've been informed that the FCC is still accepting comments. So, if you haven't already sent in your comments, you may file reply comments using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS), <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/> which also permits users to view all comments on file. To file a reply comment, click on "Submit a Filing" under "ECFS Main Links." In the "Proceeding" field, type "03-104" and complete the required fields. You may type your remarks into a form or attach a file. If you wish, please contact your Congressman, too! And, if you haven't already viewed the ARRL field test video, I suggest going to this site and downloading it: <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/#video> It is an impressive field demonstration of just how bad it can be for Amateurs if BPL becomes a reality.

The ARRL is looking for information to include in the

ARRL Wisconsin Section

Section Manager: Donald E. Michalski, W9IXG

w9ixg@arrl.org

(Continued from page 1)

U.S. License Manager

The WTB hopes that the U.S. License Manager will enhance your ability to make basic database changes. Please feel free to provide feedback on the system once it is deployed later this year.

Please Note: When License Manager is released you will be required to login with your FCC Registration Number (FRN) and CORES password. You will no longer be able to login in to the system with your tax payer identification number (TIN).

The income tax has made more liars out of the American people than golf has. Even when you make a tax form out on the level, you don't know when it's through if you are a crook or a martyr.

-- Will Rogers

Marriage is like twirling a baton, turning handsprings, or eating with chopsticks. It looks easy until you try it.

I never forget a face, but in your case I'll make an exception.

-- Groucho Marx

He who laughs last, thinks the slowest.

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The Test Point



Amateur Radio Examination Locations and Schedules in the Area

October 04, 2003.	Madison, WI
October 04, 2003	Racine, WI
October 04, 2003	St. Paul, MN
October 05, 2003	Marshfield, WI
October 09, 2003	Apple Valley, MN
October 11, 2003	Blaine, MN
October 11, 2003	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
October 18, 2003	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
October 18, 2003	Loves Park, IL
October 18, 2003	Cottage Grove, MN
October 21, 2003	Eden Prairie, MN
October 25, 2003	Bloomington, MN
October 25, 2003	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
October 25, 2003	Tomahawk, WI
November 01, 2003	Menomonie, WI
November 01, 2003	Madison, WI
November 01, 2003	Racine, WI
November 01, 2003	St. Paul, MN
November 08, 2003	Adams, WI
November 08, 2003	Onalaska, WI
November 08, 2003	Blaine, MN
November 08, 2003	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
November 13, 2003	Apple Valley, MN
November 15, 2003	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
November 15, 2003	Loves Park, IL
November 15, 2003	Cottage Grove, MN
November 18, 2003	Sheboygan, WI
November 18, 2003	Eden Prairie, MN
November 22, 2003	Bloomington, MN
November 29, 2003.	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
December 06, 2003	Fond du Lac, WI
December 06, 2003	Madison, WI
December 06, 2003	Racine, WI
December 06, 2003	St. Paul, MN
December 11, 2003	Apple Valley, MN
December 13, 2003	Blaine, MN
December 13, 2003	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
December 18, 2003	Eden Prairie, MN
December 20, 2003	Mauston, WI
December 20, 2003	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
December 20, 2003	Loves Park, IL
December 20, 2003	Cottage Grove, MN
December 27, 2003	Bloomington, MN
January 03, 2004	Waukesha, WI (MRAC)
January 03, 2004	Madison, WI
January 03, 2004	St. Paul, MN
January 08, 2004	Apple Valley, MN
January 10, 2004	Blaine, MN
January 10, 2004	Oshkosh (Omro), WI

January 17, 2004	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
January 17, 2004	Loves Park, IL
January 17, 2004	Cottage Grove, MN
January 20, 2004	Eden Prairie, MN
January 24, 2004	Bloomington, MN
January 31, 2004 (MRAC)	Milwaukee, WI
January 31, 2004	Tomahawk, WI
February 07, 2004	Madison, WI
February 07, 2004	Racine, WI
February 07, 2004	St. Paul, MN
February 12, 2004	Apple Valley, MN
February 14 2004	Blaine, MN
February 14, 2004	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
February 17, 2004	Eden Prairie, MN
February 21. 2004	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
February 21, 2004	Loves Park, IL
February 21, 2004	Cottage Grove, MN
February 28, 2004	Bloomington, MN
February 28, 2004.	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
February 28, 2004.	Tomahawk, WI
March 06, 2004	Madison, WI
March 06, 2004	Racine, WI
March 06, 2004	St. Paul, MN
March 11, 2004	Apple Valley, MN
March 13, 2004	Blaine, MN
March 13, 2004	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
March 16, 2004	Eden Prairie, MN
March 20, 2004	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
March 20, 2004	Loves Park, IL
March 20, 2004	Cottage Grove, MN
March 27, 2004	Bloomington, MN
March 27, 2004	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
March 27, 2004	Tomahawk, WI
April 03, 2004	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
Monthly, 1st Sat.	Madison, WI
Monthly, 1st Sat.	Racine, WI
(except Jan., Jul., & Aug.)	
Monthly, 1st Sat.	St. Paul, MN
Monthly, 2nd Thu.	Apple Valley, MN
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Blaine, MN
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
Monthly, 3rd Tue.	Eden Prairie, MN
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
(September through April)	
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Loves Park, IL
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Cottage Grove, MN
Monthly, 4th Sat.	Bloomington, MN
Monthly, Last Sat.	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
(except Mar., Jun., Aug., & Dec.)	
Monthly, Last Sat.	Tomahawk, WI
(January thru October only)	

GENERAL RULES FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS Be sure to check with sponsors before going to an examination session. There may be changes and/or errors in the dates or information given. Some examinations require filing an FCC or NCVEC Form 605 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. Some VE teams permit walkins. Check with the sponsor.

Many hamfests and swapfests offer examinations. A Hamfest entrance fee should not be charged if you come only to attend the examination. To register in advance, you must get a copy of the current FCC Form 605, and fill it out completely and correctly. Got your form from the FCC as instructed below, or from the American Radio Relay League, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111. Please send an SASE if you request a form from the League. FCC Field Offices seldom stock forms. You can also get a form from

http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html
or
ftp://ftp.fcc.gov/pub/Forms/Form605.

A form by FAX is available at (202) 418-0177 (request Form 000605). The FCC Forms Distribution Center will accept orders at (800) 418-3676. Form 605 has a main form, plus a Schedule D with two parts (for Vanity and Physician's Certifications). Forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

See QST, W1AW bulletins, or The ARRL Letter regarding any annual exam fee changes. ARRL/VEC no longer gives a free code test or Element 2. Test fees: The ARRL/VEC has set its 2003 test fee at \$12.00. FCC requires applicants to show their original amateur license or CSCE to the VE team. You must also have a good copy of your license or CSCE. A copy of your license or CSCE must be attached to your FCC form 605 and most VE teams need a copy for their records. One good CSCE copy is sufficient. You are also be required to have a photo ID, or two other forms of ID. Contact the VE team for details.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General with a code test only. Proof must be either in the form of a pre-3/21/87 license document or a "Letter of Verification of Technician License Held Prior to 1987" as requested in writing from the FCC, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245. For those with internet access, a listing of exam sessions is available from:

http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.phtml

By checking this page, you can find registered VE sessions anywhere in the US and some overseas. You can search by country, state or zip code. The listing is not specific to any particular VEC. It is a master database. Thanks to Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, ARRL/VEC.

Adams, WI
Adams County Library, 101 S. Main St., Adams, WI. Enter from the Center St. entrance. Walk-ins are welcome. For information contact: Ed Wagner at Email: aab9fn@arrl.net or call 608-584-4858. All ARRL rules, regulations and conditions apply to testing.

Appleton, WI
Fox Cities ARC (ARRL/VEC) All regular test sessions are held at the American Red Cross Building in Appleton. Testing starting at 8 a.m. No walk-ins after 9 a.m. For information, contact George R. Croy, W9MDP, 2113

Twin Willows Drive, Appleton, WI 54914. (920) 730-0967. Email: w9mdp@arrl.net.

Eau Claire, WI
Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club.
South Middle School, North East side door 7, 2115 Mitscher Ave, Eau Claire, WI
Eau Claire Hamfest. Held at Eau Claire Exposition Center, Lorch Avenue, Eau Claire.
Technician, General and Extra Class exams. Walkins welcome.
Examination session coordinator: Steve Bluem, KA9OMY, ka9omy@arrl.net. Telephone: 715-839-6509. www.ecarc.org. w9eau@ecarc.org.

Fond du Lac, WI
Fond du Lac ARC (ARRL/VEC). Community United Methodist Church, 701 Minnesota Ave., North Fond du Lac. 9:00 a.m. Walk-ins allowed. Contact: Douglas J. Schultz, 920-922-3088, schultz74@charter.net.

Madison, WI
First Saturday monthly: 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Space Place, 1605 South Park Street, Madison. Please bring a picture ID, your original license, a copy of your license, and the original and a copy of any relevant CSCes, and a check for \$10.00 made out to the ARRL/VEC. No appointments are necessary to take exams. Exams start promptly at 8 a.m. Questions may be directed to Tim Czerwonka, WO9U, at 608-239-3696 (home phone) or sent to wo9u@arrl.net.

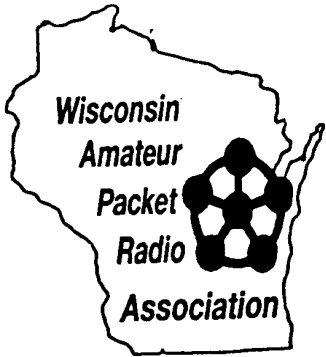
Marshfield, WI (ARRL/VEC)
Sponsored by the Marshfield Area ARS. 6:00 p.m. (walk-in allowed). :pcatopm: St. Joseph's Hospital, 611 St. Joseph Ave., Room 124, Hospice Self Bldg, Marshfield, WI. Contact: Lee A. Olson, (715) 389-888. e-mail: lolson@t2net.com.

Menominee, MI
Marinette-Menominee Amateur Radio Club. Location: The cafeteria of Bay Area Med Center, US-41 in Menominee. Building located next to KFC just off the Interstate Bridge. All classes given. Advance notice preferred, but not required. Test fee is \$10 with two pieces of identification required. Contact Jeff Rymer, N9PQU at jrymer@ez-net.com or Ed Engleman, KG8CX, at dxer@cybrzn.com. We will monitor the 147.000 (107.2 pl) repeater in event further directions or info is needed.

Menomonie, WI
ARRL/VEC. Location: NEWUW-Stout Communications, Millennium Hall, Broadway & 10th Ave., Menomonie, WI. Contact: James P. Ley, 715-235-3998.

Milwaukee, WI
Badger Examiners (W5YI VEC) September thru April, every third Saturday morning, 9:30 a.m. to noon. Badger Examiners group tests at AES (Amateur Electronic Supply) at 60th and Good Hope, Milwaukee (use the entrance numbered 5730). Exams are given at the old Stermann Printing shop, just 300 feet west of
(Continued on page 10)

Check us out on the web at
[Http://www.bsas.org](http://www.bsas.org)



THE WISCONSIN PACKETEER

Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio Association
Allen Schnepf, N0GMJ, Treasurer
Ogema, WI 54459

Andy Nemec, KB9ALN, Editor—453 Cottage Grove Avenue—Green Bay, WI 54304—e-mail: kb9aln@gbonline.com

Andy is taking a well earned vacation this issue. The Wisconsin Packeteer will return in the December issue of Badger State Smoke Signals.

The Test Point



Amateur Radio Examination Locations and Schedules in the Area

(Continued from page 9)

the AES store. Novice to Extra are offered, and all test materials are provided. Fee is \$10.00, and bring your original license, or CSCE if needed. Also available are Commercial license exams GROL (General Radiotelephone license), GMDSS, Telegraph, Etc. Fee is \$35.00. For more information call Gary Sharbuno, WI9M at (414) 355-0237.

Milwaukee, WI
Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club (MRAC VEC) Last Saturday, except in March, June, August, and December. In addition, we test at the West Allis RAC Swapfest in January and at Superfest in April. 9:30 a.m. to noon at Amateur Electronic Supply (AES), 5710 W. Good Hope Road (the door you enter is actually numbered 5730), Milwaukee. For additional information, call (262) 797-MRAC. Bring along your original license, CSCE (if any), and one (1) good quality photocopy of each, plus two forms of identification, such a driver's license, etc. Also required is \$8.00 for the exam fee. Walkins are welcome. To register in advance, use a post card. Print the grade of license you are applying for, your name, address, and telephone number, and send the card to MRAC/VEC, Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club, P.O. Box 070695, Milwaukee, WI 53207. Contact: John G. Kraak, 262-797-6722.

Onalaska, WI
Riverland ARC (ARRL/VEC). Onalaska Public Library, 741 Oak Street, Onalaska, WI. Contact: Roger Reader, KA9BKK, 608-783-0723, readers@centurytel.net.

Oshkosh, WI (Omro)
Oshkosh VE Team Amateur Radio exams monthly on the first Saturday. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and exams will be given from 9 a.m. until noon. Omro Community Center, 130 W. Larrabee, Omro, WI. Walkins welcomed. Bring a good quality photocopy of your original license and any other necessary documents such as a CSCE, etc. The first session will be through W5YI/VEC, and then sessions will alternate between ARRL/VEC and W5YI/VEC. The exam fee is \$6.65. For more information, please call Dick Lemme, K9FA, at (920) 235-0987, e-mail: lemme@vbe.com, or write Dick at 826 Jefferson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

Racine, WI
ARRL VEC Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August. Monthly exams are given 9 to 11 a.m. at the Faith United Methodist Church, 1013 Harmony Drive, Racine. Walk-ins are permitted. Talk in on 147.87/27. Inquiries and registrations should be directed to Paul B. Smedegaard, N9RGW, 929 Lathrop Ave., Racine, WI 53405-2339. Telephone: (262) 637 4750. or e-mail to smedegaa@wi.net.

Sheboygan, WI,

VE testing dates in Sheboygan County Wisconsin, for 2003 will be according to the following schedule:

Saturdays 8:30 AM, 10, 13 September
Tuesdays 6:30 PM, 18 March, 15 July. 18 November

Sheboygan County ARC (ARRL/VEC). Exams are held in the Red Cross Building, 2032 Erie Avenue, Sheboygan, WI. The test areas are handicap accessible with signage posted to direct candidates to the proper area of the building. Walk-ins are accepted, however notification ahead of time of your intention to appear would be appreciated.

Contact: Art Pahr K9XJ, N8029 Willow Road, Plymouth, WI 53073-2929. Telephone: 920-876-2370. e-mail: k9xj@arrl.net

Shell Lake, WI
NORWESCO ARES/RACES (ARRL/VEC). Washburn County Law Enforcement Center, lower level meeting room, 421 Hwy 63, Shell Lake. Walk-ins allowed. This is for all classes of license. Persons wishing to upgrade an existing license should bring a photocopy of it to submit. Also need a photo ID to prove who you are. The fee is \$10.00. Contact: Richard J. Eckenrode, 715-466-4109. Email: cen34109@centurytel.net. Web Site:

fp1.centurytel.net/norwesco/.

Tomahawk, WI
Tomahawk ARRL VE Team (ARRL/VEC). Last Saturday of every month, January thru October. Registration at 8:30 a.m. and testing starts at 9:00 a.m. For location or other information, inquire on 145.43 MHz. repeater or contact: Terry Collins, KB9AUP, W6564 Highway 8, Tomahawk, WI 54487. Telephone (715) 453-4633, dcollins@newnorth.net.

St. Paul, MN
Saint Paul Radio Club (SPRC) First Saturday of the month, 8:30 a.m. Test Site: St. Paul Technical College, 235 Marshall Ave., St Paul, MN. Ed VanCleave, W0VC, (612) 636-0108. www.qsl.net/sprc/index.html.

Rockford, IL
Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (W5YI VEC) Third Saturday of every month. 9:00 a.m. to noon. No new applicants after 11:00 a.m. Walkins welcome. Held at North Suburban District Library, 6340 North Second St. (Hwy. 251), Loves Park, IL. Rusty Cordell, WB9QYV, 1823 Hulin St., Rockford, IL 61102-2619. (815) 968-0080. e-mail: WB9QYV@aol.com.

WISCONSIN AMATEUR PACKET RADIO MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE PRINT:

NAME: _____ CALL: _____ HOME PHONE: (_____) _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME BBS: _____ FREQ: _____ (Listing your home BBS is important)

MY PACKET STATION OPERATES: _____ DAY _____ - _____ NIGHT _____ 24 HOURS

I OPERATE A: _____ DIGIPEATER WITH AN ALIAS OF: _____


_____ FULL SERVICE BBS

PRIMARY PACKET INTERST/EXPERTISE IS: _____

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Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

WB9FDZ (Original Club Call)
K9ODK (Robert L. Prine Memorial Call)
Club net: Sundays 8:00 p.m. on 147.315
Raymond J. Matlosz, N9MLZ, Secretary
450 W. 2nd St., Reedsburg, WI 53959-1500



The June meeting of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club was called to order by our President Steve, N9UDO on June 5th at 7:20 PM. Tom, N9PQJ made a motion that the secretary's report, as emailed to the members, be accepted as printed and was seconded by Joe, WB9SBD. The treasurers report was given by Bill, N9KXX, we have \$2,625.61 in the bank! Bill noted that he still has some of the Maxon WX-70 weather radios for sale as a club fundraiser! \$35.00 each, what a deal! Contact Bill or Steve if you want one.

Old Business:
It has brought up that the tnc that we were going to use for the arboo packet node project could not be updated with newer software.

New Business:
Field day at Owen Park: We will again be using Bill, N9KXX's generator and equipment trailer -Thanks Bill! There were some concerns about how

we will be running our antenna and coaxial cables, as this year Rhythm and Booms in Madison is on the Saturday night of field day and there will be a large amount of people in the park watching the fireworks. It was decided that we will be extra careful in running those lines so people will not be injured. As in other years bring your own meat for the grill and a dish to pass for the picnic supper on Sat. night.

Tnc for the arboo node: After some discussion Len, N9XJG made a motion that we spend up to \$200 to buy a new Tnc for the project. Seconded by Bill KC9CVD

Motion to adjourn by Bill KC9CVD, second by Len, N9XJG

Respectfully submitted by the secretary stand in, Tom N9PQJ (nobody else wanted to do it!)

A big THANK YOU to Tom, N9PQJ for filling in for me.

Lynn KB9YOD, YTARC Secretary

The July meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by club president Steve Schulze, N9UDO. The meeting was held in the EOC Meeting Room at the Sauk Co. Court House. June minutes approved as published via e-mail, motion by Bob, KB9VSQ and seconded by Maurey, KA9TBU to accept. Treasurer's report provided by Steve, N9UDO, and accepted by members. Club account balance stands at \$2625.61.

Old Business:
Field Day: Steve, N9UDO had contact with the International Space Station at 0750 on Sunday morning. The club had 4 stations going. Frequencies worked included 6 meter, 40, 20, 15, 10, 2 and ATV. A good time was had by all attending. Field Day was deemed successful.

New Business:
Swap Fest: Swap Fest is August 9 this year. Possible door prizes were discussed: weather monitor, mobile radio - single band, HT, a gift certificate from AES. Discussion of door prizes will continue at the next meeting. Discussion followed concerning adding what the door prizes will be to next years flyers in hopes to generate interest.

The August meeting was called to order at 7:22 p.m. by club President Steve Schulze, N9UDO. The meeting was held in the EOC Meeting Room at the Sauk Co. Court House. July minutes approved as published via e-mail, motion by Maurey, KA9TBU and seconded by Dave, KB9CSW to accept. Treasurer's report provided by Bill, N9KXX, and accepted by members. Club account balance stands at \$1825.83.

Old Business:
The annual Swap Fest will be held Saturday, August 9, 2003. Discussion included set up and door prizes. Tom has received the league package which includes: repeater directory, antenna guide book and ARRL Handbook. The club sponsored door prize this year will be an ICOM dual band IC-Q7A HT. Weather monitors will also be available at \$35.00 each at the club table. Exams available this year are: code @ 0900 and written @ 1000. Gait opens @ 0600 for vendors and 0700 for general admission. Talk in station: volunteer needed. The Sauk City communications trailer will be available for use.

New Business:
Don Michalski, W9IXG is requesting use of the repeater on August 31, 2003 for "The Right Stuff" Bike event.

Ham Classes: The club is considering buying the "Now You're Talking" books to sell to prospective HAMs. Steve Schwoegler, K9WD has volunteered to do testing. Bill, N9KXX is looking into getting the Prairie Du Sac Fire Department meeting room to hold the classes and testing.

Our next meeting will be the last before Swap Fest.

Motion to adjourn by Maurey, KA9TBU, seconded by Tom, N9PQJ. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

NEXT CLUB MEETING: AUGUST 6, 2003 AT THE SAUK CO. EOC MEETING ROOM IN THE BASEMENT OF THE SAUK CO. COURT HOUSE, 510 BROADWAY, BARABOO -USE THE WEST (BROADWAY STREET) ENTRANCE.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn Loomis, KB9YOD
YTARC Secretary

Members Attending		
Lynn Loomis	KB9YOD	Reedsburg
Steve Schulze	N9UDO	Baraboo
Maurey Gurgel	KA9TBU	Reedsburg
Bob Loomis	KB9VSQ	Reedsburg
Peter Sweeney	WD9JIB	Reedsburg
Dave Spearing	KB9CSW	Portage
Thomas Harrison	N9PQJ	Reedsburg

With no further business to discuss, motion to adjourn made by Maurey, KA9TBU and seconded by Bill, N9KXX. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

NEXT CLUB MEETING: September 4, 2003 @ 7:00 pm AT THE SAUK CO. EOC MEETING ROOM IN THE BASEMENT OF THE SAUK CO. COURT HOUSE, 510 BROADWAY, BARABOO - USE THE WEST (BROADWAY STREET) ENTRANCE.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn Loomis, KB9YOD
YTARC Secretary

Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club Home Page <<http://www.qsl.net/ytarc/>>

Members and friends attending:

Duane Grotophorst	N9DG	North Freedom
Peter Sweeney	WD9JIB	Reedsburg
Rick Plouffe	N9ROY	Wisconsin Dells
Maurey Gurgel	KA9TBU	Reedsburg
Steve Schulze	N9UDO	Baraboo
Bill Klinkner	N9KXX	Sauk City
Dave Spearing	KB9CSW	Portage
Bill Stehling	KC9CVD	Sauk City
Steve Schwoegler	K9WD	Wisconsin Dells
Dave Estes	KB9QDE	Reedsburg
Manuel Mendoza	KC9DFI	Baraboo
Lynn Loomis	KB9YOD	Reedsburg

The September meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by club Vice President Tom, N9PQJ. The meeting was held in the EOC Meeting Room at the Sauk Co. Court House. August minutes approved as published via e-mail, motion by Bill, N9KXX and seconded by Cliff, KC9CMC to accept. The Treasurer's report was provided by Bill, N9KXX, and accepted by the members. Club account balance stands at \$3016.98.

Old Business:
Swap Fest:
The club Swap Fest was held August 9, 2003. A report was provided by Bill, N9KXX on the club profit from the event. Gross: \$1980.56, tentative expenses: \$1093.23, tentative profit: \$727.77. A good time was had by all.

The rental agreement for next year's Hamfest was discussed. Motion made by Bob, KB9VSQ to send the check to hold the fair ground building for next year, second by Cliff, KC9CMC, motion passed.

Discussion of purchasing the door prize early so it could be included on

next year's fest flyer. A suggestion was made to make it a generic inclusion on the flyer, "2 meter mobile radio" as a door prize.

Repeater Use for events:
WAR - Wisconsin Adventure Race - used the repeater during their event. The Right Stuff Bike Race used the repeater for their event. Peter, WD9JIB provided a report on the event. 760 riders participated, and the repeater worked well.

HAM Classes:
Ham radio classes for technician license will be held on Saturday, November 1, and November 8, 2003 at the Prairie Du Sac Fire Dept. Station, 855 17th Street in the Prairie Du Sac Industrial Park. Registration will be from 0800 - 0900 on November 1, 2003. Classes run from 0900 to 1700 with one hour lunch and morning and afternoon breaks. Testing for the technician class license will be on November 8, 2003 at 1300. "Now You're Talking" will be used as a study guide, and will be available from the YTARC. Class requirements: Pre study with "Now You're Talking" book. Handouts will be given out at the class. Call Bill Klinkner, N9KXX @ 608-643-6908 or Steve Schulze, N9UDO @ 608-356-2313 for more details. Donald Michalski, W9IXG will be doing an ARRL presentation at the class.

Bob, KB9VSQ reports the Juneau Co. ARC also holds Ham testing sessions quarterly.

New Business:
Election of Club Officers It is that time of year again for nomination for club officers. Nominated this year for President: Steve Schulze, N9UDO, Vice President: Tom Harrison, N9PQJ, Treasurer: Bill Klinkner, N9KXX (for life), Secretary: Bill Stehling,

KC9CVD and Bob Loomis, KB9VSQ. Lynn Loomis, KB9YOD - declined.

Additional nominations will be accepted at the next club meeting. Elections will be held at the next meeting, October 7, 2003.

Christmas Party This year's Christmas party was discussed. It was decided that the party would be held on December 7, 2003, and would be a brunch. Bill, KC9CVD and Cliff, KC9CMC volunteered to organize the event this year. Enclosed below is a copy of the email providing the information about the party.

The Christmas Party on December 7, 2003 at 11:30 a.m. will be at:
Fitz's On The Lake Restaurant
W11602 Cty Road V
Okee, WI
Phone (608) 592-3302

The Hillcrest is not open for Sunday brunch in the winter. Reservations have been made at Fitz's for 35-40 people at 11:30 a.m.. The restaurant will call me if anything changes between now and December. Otherwise, we're all set. -- Cliff Johnson, KC9CMC
Thanks Cliff.

ARBOO Node
The radio and TNC have been mounted in the radio box. The power supply and back up battery are almost ready. Steve, N9UDO and Bill, N9KXX are working on the project. They are looking at some time in October as a tentative time to get set up.

Motion made by Cliff, KC9CMC to adjourn, seconded by Bill N9KXX. Meeting adjourned at 2000.

NEXT CLUB MEETING: October 7, 2003 @ 7:00 pm AT THE SAUK CO. EOC MEETING ROOM IN THE BASEMENT OF THE SAUK CO. COURT HOUSE, 510 BROADWAY, BARABOO - USE THE WEST (BROADWAY STREET) ENTRANCE.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn Loomis, KB9YOD, YTARC Secretary

Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club Home Page <<http://www.qsl.net/ytarc/>>

Members and friends attending:
Lynn Loomis KB9YOD Reedsburg
Cliff Johnson KC9CMC Prairie Du Sac
Bill Stehling KC9CVD Sauk City
Robert Loomis KB9VSQ West Rock Springs
Peter Sweeney WD9JIB East La Valle
Ken Ebnetter K9EN Portage
Bill Klinkner N9KXX Sauk City
Thomas Harrison N9PQJ Reedsburg

We hope that you enjoy this issue of Badger State Smoke Signals. On our listing of Hamfests, Meetings and Exam sites, we have put any new or changed information in **bold** type.

We can now deliver your copy of BSSS by e-mail. Just let us know your e-mail address and we will send you a copy when we send the printed edition to the printer. We will also continue to send you the printed copy unless you tell us to send by e-mail only. We will have extra material that we could not include in the printed edition with the e-mail version.

Since there is no Packeteer column (editor is on a vacation, and Packeteer will be back in December.) We have put the full listing in for club meetings and exam site information. Please check the information for you and your clubs. If there are any additions, deletions or changes, please send them to me at the address on page 2.

We still have not gotten out the club and advertiser billings, but will be working on them in the coming weeks.

The next issue will be the December issue. If you have any material try to get it to me by the first of November or if I know it is coming, no later than the 15th.



73 ken k9en

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SWAPFESTS

 <p>2002 WINNER Michael J. Haessler, KB9TG Waupaca, WI.</p> <p>32nd ANNUAL MIDWINTER SWAPFEST WAUKESHA EXPOSITION CENTER WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN SATURDAY JANUARY 3, 2004</p> <p><i>Both sponsored by: THE WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEUR CLUB, INC. P. O. BOX 1072 • MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53201</i></p>	<p><i>HAM IT UP EVERY SPRING!</i> MADISON SWAPFEST Mandt Community Center <i>APRIL 18, 2004</i> 400 Mandt Parkway Stoughton WI Doors open at 8 a.m. Sponsored by MARA/W9HSY P. O. Box 8890 Madison, WI 53708-8890 swapfest Information Line. (608) 245-8890</p>	<p>SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB SWAPFEST 03 JULY , 2004 (Held every July) <i>American Legion Park Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI</i> (414) 762-3235 Ask for Verne P.O. Box 102 South Milwaukee, WI 53172 e-mail ryatex@aol.com</p>		
<p>SEWFARS SWAPFEST HAM RADIOS • COMPUTERS • ELECTRONICS AMATEUR LICENSE EXAMS</p> <p>Setup starts at 6:00 A.M. For more information, call (414) 835-7035</p>	<p>The Chicago FM Club presents RADIO EXPO 2002 September 20-21, 2003 Lake County Fairgrounds, Rts. 45 and 120 Grayslake, Illinois Free parking • Amateur Exams • Talkin 146.16/76 Info Voice mail and FAX: (708) 457-0966 http://www.chicagofmclub.org P.O. Box 56784, Harwood Heights, IL 60656-0724</p>	<p>TRI-COUNTY ARC PRESENTS HAMFEST 2004 March 21, 2004 YOUR SPRING FAVORITE ! Www.cmdline.com/tcarc/ TCARC 213 Frederick St (920) 563-6381 Fort Atkinson, WI 53538 Evenings</p>		
 <p>www.ns9rc.org</p> <p>NS9RC fest <i>formerly known as LAMARfest</i> Lake County Fairgrounds, Grayslake, Illinois Radio, Electronic, Computer Swapfest MARCH 28, 2004 Grayslake, IL</p>	<p>Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club HAMFEST 2004 Saturday, September 11 2004</p> <p>For Information Contact: Steve Bluem at (715)839-6509 ka9omy@arri.net ECARC P.O. Box 1867, Eau Claire. WI 54702-1867</p>	<p>The Milwaukee Repeater Club presents AMATEUR RADIO FEST 2003 November 01 2003</p> <p>Waukesha County Expo Center Forum Buildings For more information, see: http://www.execpc.com/mrc e-mail mrc@mrc91.org or call 1.608.367.3953</p>		
<p>Ozaukee Radio Club 23rd ANNUAL RADIO AND COMPUTER SWAPFEST MAY 01, 2004 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. • Circle B Recreation Center Intersection of Highway 60 and County I Exams by Badger Examiners, c/o Gary Sharbuno, 5119 W, Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53222 Swapfest sponsored by the Ozaukee Radio Club W55 N865 Cedar Ridge Drive • Cedarburg WI 53012</p>	<p>Circus City Swapfest Sponsored by the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club Saturday, August 14, 2004 • 7 am—Noon Sauk County Fairgrounds • Baraboo, WI</p> <table border="1"><tr><td>Vendors • Concessions Camping • Free Parking Tail Gate Area</td><td>\$4.00 — Advanced \$5.00 — At Gate \$5.00 — 8 foot tables</td></tr></table> <p>Steve Schulze, N9UDO • Bill Klinkner, N9KXX (606) 356-2313 • (608) 643-6908/643-6453 http://www.qsl.net/ytarc/hamfest.htm,</p>	Vendors • Concessions Camping • Free Parking Tail Gate Area	\$4.00 — Advanced \$5.00 — At Gate \$5.00 — 8 foot tables	<p>SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB AUCTION Amateur Radio, Computers & Electronics Wed. October 1, 2003, 6:00 p.m. <i>American Legion Post 434 Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI</i> (414) 762-3235 Ask for Verne P.O. Box 102 South Milwaukee, WI 53172 e-mail: ryatex@aol.com</p>
Vendors • Concessions Camping • Free Parking Tail Gate Area	\$4.00 — Advanced \$5.00 — At Gate \$5.00 — 8 foot tables			

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BADGER STATE SMOKE SIGNALS

WEB EDITION — EXTRA PAGES

ARLB050 ARRL Board requests policy recommendations to implement WRC-03 results

The ARRL Board of Directors has called on ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, and the ARRL Executive Committee to develop ARRL policy recommendations for an FCC filing to implement the results of World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03). ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, chaired the July 18-19 Board session in Windsor, Connecticut.

"The League, as the Amateur Radio representative in the United States, will, through its democratic process, review input from its members as to the impact and implementation of these results to the Part 97 rules," a Board resolution declared. A report on the policy recommendations is due next January. The Board expressed gratitude to the IARU and ARRL WRC-03 team for its "tireless and dedicated efforts in promoting Amateur Radio" and congratulated it for achieving the IARU's goals at the month-long international conference, which wrapped up in Geneva July 4.

Delegates to WRC-03 reached a compromise on a 200-kHz worldwide allocation--7000 to 7200 kHz--effective in 2009, with no change to the existing 300-kHz allocation in the US or elsewhere in Region 2. The conference also eliminated the requirement that amateur applicants prove Morse code proficiency to operate below 30 MHz, leaving it up to individual administrations to retain or drop Morse as an exam element. WRC-03 decisions also resulted in changes affecting international third-party traffic, guidelines for standards of competence of amateur licensees, and recognition of the licenses of visiting amateurs.

The Board also implemented some recommendations of the wide-ranging Final Report of the Volunteer Resources Committee to the ARRL Board of Directors--an Evaluation of the ARRL's Field Organization. The committee, chaired by ARRL Midwest Division Director Wade Walstrom, W0EJ, concluded that the state of the ARRL Field Organization is "fair," but not sufficient to meet the League's obligation to provide emergency communications, especially at the national level.

In light of the report, the Board called for a comprehensive system to enhance the communications capabilities of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). There are situations, the Board said--especially given the League's new Citizen Corps partnership with the Department of Homeland Security--when ARES "must have the capability to pass traffic across the nation quickly and accurately."

The Board also called on all 71 Section Emergency Coordinators to develop, implement and maintain a comprehensive Section Emergency Plan by year's end. Additionally, the Board asked Sumner to formally establish leadership training courses as a part of routine Section Manager orientation.

In response to the so-called "Minute 56" report initiated at last July's meeting, the Board voted to initiate a process to revise ARRL band plans for amateur allocations between 902 MHz and 24.25 GHz. "New band plans will be developed using as a goal the full amateur deployment of each band," the Board said. The Board voted unanimously to authorize President Haynie--with assistance from Imlay and Technical Relations Manager Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, "to explore specific terms of expanded partnering plans with the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC). Such cooperation could involve greater integration of amateur operation in the bands from 902 MHz to 24.25 GHz in public safety and homeland security communications."

Citing the Amateur Radio tradition of Elmering (mentoring) new and prospective amateurs, the Board okayed a resolution instructing the VRC to develop two or more viable options for an ARRL Volunteer Mentor program that would provide for "the promotion, support and growth of mentoring in Amateur Radio." The VRC is to present its options at the Board's January meeting.

Additional details are on the ARRL Web site. The minutes of the July ARRL Board of Directors meeting will be posted on the ARRL Web site as soon as they are available.

ARRL Bulletin 55 ARLB055
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT August 22, 2003
To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB055
ARLB055 Pro-BPL comments lack technical substance, ARRL says

The ARRL said Broadband over Power Line (BPL) proponents have failed to substantiate their claims that the technology will not cause widespread interference. In reply comments filed August 20, the League said that if the FCC is going to rely on industry statements in making decisions on BPL deployment, the industry should back up its assertions with technical studies and hard data and make these public.

While BPL advocates claim no interference, ARRL said its own field tests lead inescapably to the conclusion that BPL will, if deployed,

create widespread harmful interference. "The interference was manifest and widespread and would be so even to an untrained observer," ARRL said.

The ARRL supplemented its text comments with technical exhibits that document the results of testing at several BPL field trial sites.

The League also noted that comments in the proceeding so far have been silent on the interference susceptibility of BPL to ham radio signal ingress.

"It is past time that the Commission acted in its proper role as a steward of the radio spectrum and recognized the interference potential of BPL to the sensitive incumbent licensed services in these bands," the League concluded.

ARRL Bulletin 60 ARLB060
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT September 19, 2003
To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB060
ARLB060 W1AW to shift 160-meter transmission frequency

Starting Monday, September 29, W1AW will shift its 160-meter code practice and bulletin transmission frequency from 1818 kHz to 1817.5 kHz, starting with the 4 PM EDT (2000 UTC) code practice run.

The frequency shift not only brings W1AW's Top Band frequency in line with those the station uses on other bands, it also should help to eliminate possible interference from broadcast station harmonics and birdies--something that's more likely on an integer (ie, whole number) frequency.

W1AW has been conducting code practice and bulletin transmissions on 1818 kHz since 1982. Prior to that, W1AW transmitted both CW and phone bulletins on 1835 kHz.

Special Bulletin 7 ARLX007
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT July 31, 2003
To all radio amateurs

SB SPCL ARL ARLX007
ARLX007 FCC upholds vanity fee policy, sets new fee start date

The FCC has announced that the new Amateur Radio vanity call sign regulatory fee of \$16.30 for the 10-year license term will go into effect September 9. Until then, applicants for amateur vanity call signs will continue to

pay the current \$14.50 fee per vanity call sign application. The FCC says it expects to collect close to \$160,000 from 9800 Amateur Radio vanity call sign applicants during Fiscal Year 2003. That's up by almost \$30,000 and 800 applications from FY2002.

In releasing its annual Report and Order on the assessment and collection of regulatory fees for FY2003, the FCC responded at some length to comments filed from the amateur community. Some commenters had questioned the need for the fee, the requirement to pay it when renewing a vanity call sign and why refunds were not automatic.

Telecommunications Act provisions governing regulatory fee assessment cover applications for vanity call signs, which, the FCC said, "are voluntarily requested by licensees" and are "a value-added benefit not afforded to all licensees." Assessment of a regulatory fee to cover the FCC's processing and enforcement costs to make the vanity call sign service available is reasonable, the FCC concluded.

The FCC said its current policy of assessing "a nominal fee" at the time of initial application and at each renewal also allows greater access to vanity call signs. "A high one-time-only fee would be cost prohibitive for many entities wishing to obtain a vanity call sign," the Commission said. The Commission also said it incurs costs to manage each vanity call sign throughout its existence, not just in the first 10 years.

Regarding refunds due when the FCC denies an application, the FCC said its rules require a written request from applicants before it can process refunds of regulatory fees. "The written request serves as documentation when cross-referencing each unique file number that may be entitled to a refund," the FCC added.

The FCC said the documentation was particularly important in the case of Amateur Radio vanity applications, "because filing trends indicate that some applicants file several vanity call sign applications per day for several days on end." Requiring a written request makes it easier to certify "which fees are to be refunded for which dismissed applications," the Commission said. In addition, those processing applications in FCC bureaus and offices don't have the authority to issue refunds without proper documentation.

A copy of the Report and Order is available on the FCC Web site at:

http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-03-184A1.doc.